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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

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**FISCAL YEAR 2014
CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM
FAMILY DAY CARE HOME SPONSOR MEMORANDUM #10**

TO: Family Day Care Home Sponsors

FROM: Kyle L. Guerrant, Director
Office of School Support Services

DATE: March 3, 2014

SUBJECT: National Child and Adult Care Food Program Week

Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has issued a press release announcing National Child and Adult Care Food Program Week, March 16-22, 2014.

MDE administers the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and will celebrate and promote the CACFP during this week. The celebration is focused on encouraging parents and child care providers to make healthy eating and physical activity decisions for children. The 2014 theme for the National Child and Adult Care Food Program Week is "Raising Awareness Across the Nation." Research shows that proper nutrition in young children contributes to their physical growth, as well as their intellectual and emotional development.

The News Release is attached. If you have any questions regarding this memorandum, you may contact the Child and Adult Care Food Program at 517-373-7391.

Attachment

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News Release

Contact: Martin Ackley, Director of Public and Governmental Affairs (517) 241-4395

National Child and Adult Care Food Program Week March 16-22, 2014

March 10, 2014

LANSING – The Michigan Department of Education, education organizations, and private agencies around the nation will celebrate the National Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Week from March 16-22, 2014.

The 2014 theme for National CACFP Week, “Raising Awareness Across the Nation,” presents an excellent opportunity to emphasize research outcomes that proper nutrition in children not only contributes to their physical growth, but also their intellectual and emotional development. Through the CACFP, good nutrition pays.

CACFP provides federal funds to nonresidential child care facilities to serve nutritious meals and snacks. CACFP plays a vital role in improving the quality of child care by making it affordable for many families requiring child care. The goal of the CACFP is to improve and maintain the health and nutritional status of children in care while promoting the development of good eating habits.

Eligible child care facilities include:

- Licensed child care centers
- Head Start Programs
- After-school care programs
- Emergency shelters providing residential and food services to homeless children
- Family child care homes, including relative care providers
- Some private, for-profit child care centers
- Adult Day Service programs

More than 155,400 meals and snacks were served daily to children at more than 7,092 sites in Michigan during 2013. The Michigan Department of Education continues to recognize and takes great pride in commending the men and women who accept and meet the daily challenge of providing healthy meals to Michigan’s children.

CACFP has served admirably for more than 30 years through advanced practices and nutrition education. CACFP is dedicated to the health and well-being of this nation’s and state’s children and has been joined through the years by many other excellent child nutrition programs. There is evidence of the continued need for nutrition education and awareness of the value of child nutrition programs.